- Entry of organized retail is transforming the logistics industry. This will create significant positive externalities across the economy.
- Small manufacturers did not report any significant impact of organized retail.

Policy Recommendations

On the basis of the results of the surveys and the review of international retail experience, the study makes the following major recommendations:

1. Modernization of wetmarkets through public-private partnerships.
2. Facilitate *cash-and-carry* outlets, like Metro, for sale to unorganized retail and procurement from farmers, as in China.
3. Encourage co-operatives and associations of unorganized retailers for direct procurement from suppliers and farmers.
4. Ensure better credit availability to unorganized retailers from banks and micro-credit institutions through innovative banking solutions.
5. Facilitate the formation of farmers' co-operatives to directly sell to organized retailers.
6. Encourage formulation of "private codes of conduct" by organized retail for dealing with small suppliers. These may then be incorporated into enforceable legislation.
7. Simplification of the licensing and permit regime for organized retail and move towards a nationwide uniform licensing regime in the States to facilitate modern retail.
8. Strengthening the Competition Commission's role for enforcing rules against collusion and predatory pricing.
9. Modernization of APMC markets as modelled on the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Safal market in Bangalore.

Making public the terms of agreement with the ASEAN

614. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to sign a Free Trade Agreement with the ASEAN;

(b) if so, the terms of the Agreement and what interest it will serve India by bringing down tariffs on a range of commodities produced in Kerala; and

(c) why Government is not willing to adhere to the demands of healthy democratic practice to make public the terms of the agreement before it is signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) India has already signed the Trade in Goods Agreement with ASEAN on 13th August, 2009.

(b) The India—ASEAN Free Trade Agreement is envisaged to come into force with effect from 1st January, 2010. Majority of the agriculture and fisheries items are protected under the Agreement by placing them in the Exclusion (Negative) List were no tariff concessions are available to ASEAN countries. A complete list of India's offer is available at http://commerce.gov.in/trade/international_ta_indasean.asp

(c) Does not arise, in view of answer at (a) above.

FDI in different sectors in Maharashtra

615. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in different sectors, especially in Maharashtra since last three years; and

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to enhance foreign direct investment (FDI) in different sectors such as basic infrastructure, high technology etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Details of sector-wise FDI inflows in India and in Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu region, as reported by RBI, from April, 2006 to September, 2009, are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See* below).

(b) The Government of India has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), including investments from Non-resident Indians (NRIs), wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route, including basic infrastructure and Research and Development. The Government's decisions on FDI policy are notified by way of Press Notes which are available at the website of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion: http://dipp.gov.in.

Government has also announced a number of measures to accelerate the demand in the economy, which would enable India to continue as an attractive investment destination. It continues to make efforts to increase economic cooperation with the developing, as well as developed, countries, through different fora, such as Joint Commissions/Joint Committees, other bilateral channels like interaction with the delegations visiting the country, as well as by organizing visits abroad for discussions on issues of mutual interest and business/investment meets between Indian and foreign entrepreneurs to stimulate foreign investment into India. The Department of industrial Policy and Promotion also participates in discussions covering industrial cooperation, organized by other Ministries and Departments of Government of India and various Business meetings.

The Government also undertakes investment promotion activities by organizing events such as 'Destination India' and 'Invest India', in various countries with FDI potential, to create awareness about the investment climate and opportunities in India, as well as to provide support to potential investors. The Government, in partnership with various State Government and Business Associations, is making concerted efforts to make regulations conducive for business. In addition, it has initiated the implementation of the e-Biz Project, a Mission Mode Project under